FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. S. 184, as Amended

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TO: The Honorable Billy Witherspoon, Chairman, House Agriculture, Natural Resource &

Environmental Affairs Committee

FROM: Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board

ANALYSTS: R.J. Stein

DATE: March 28, 2005 SBD: 2005342

AUTHOR: Senator Leatherman PRIMARY CODE CITE: Joint Resolution

SUBJECT: Francis Marion Trail Commission

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES: See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES: See Below

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 184, as amended, is a Joint Resolution that creates a seven member Francis Marion Trail Commission. The Bill authorizes the Commission to solicit private donations and to coordinate with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism (PRT) to plan and construct the trail. The Bill requires PRT to maintain the trail once the trail is established and requires the Commission to continue to solicit funds in support of trail maintenance. The Bill declares that Commission members may not receive subsistence, mileage and per diem.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism (PRT) indicates the agency could provide technical assistance to the Commission during the initial planning and design stages of the project at no additional cost. However, there may be an impact to the General Fund depending on the extent to which the Commission is able to generate other funds revenue and local matching funds to offset costs associated with trail operation and maintenance. PRT estimates minimum annual operating costs at \$61,040 including salaries and fringe benefits for two FTEs to maintain the trail on a 7 day a week basis and \$6,000 in operating expenses. Additional non-recurring costs may include trail development and the construction of facilities. Such one-time costs are not determinable until the Commission's adopts a plan and issues recommendations.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:

Don Addy

Assistant Director, Office of State Budget